



United States Department of the Interior  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK  
Highway 63, #1 Park Road  
PO Box 640201  
Bryce Canyon, UT 84764-0201



L3417

October 6, 2014

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for your interest in horseback riding in Bryce Canyon National Park!  
The use of privately owned stock (horses and mules) to enjoy the wonders of Bryce Canyon National Park are welcomed! Regulations have been developed to assist you in enjoying your visit, keeping you and other visitors safe, and for protection of equine health and park resources. **These rules are in effect beginning February 1, 2015**

General Rules:

1. Horseback riding is limited to trails designated by the park as "Horse Trails"; these are also used by our concessioner, Canyon Trail Rides, Inc. (see attached map)
2. Stock must never be left unattended.
3. Backcountry trails and campsites in the park are not developed to accommodate horses, therefore, overnight stock camping or pack trips are not authorized.
4. All rules and regulations regarding general trail use also pertain to equestrian use of trails. These include: stock must stay on trails at all times; shortcutting of trails is not permitted; and riding parallel to the trail (outside the developed trail tread) is not permitted.

Prior to Your Arrival:

1. Private equestrians **must schedule a time for their ride (see below)** and are limited to 10 riders and their mounts in a group at any reserved time.
2. We require the use of **certified weed-free feed**. Horses and mules must be fed certified weed-free feed a minimum of 48 hours prior to stock coming into the park.
3. **Be sure animal health certifications are in order**, if needed!! Stock brought to Bryce Canyon National Park must comply with Utah Administrative Code R58-1-7. It is your responsibility to meet the requirements below:
  - a) All stock brought to the park that originate from outside of Utah must have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (valid for 30 days) and the certificate must show a negative Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) (Coggins - AGID or ELISA) test within the past 12 months.
  - b) For Utah equestrians, Rangers will ask you to certify that your animals have not left the State in the past 6 months; otherwise the requirements for Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and a negative Coggins test will apply.
  - c) Utah law requires that owners of any horses being transported within Utah, whether originating in Utah or from another State **must carry proof of ownership**. Approved forms of proof of ownership are found at the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food website:  
<http://ag.utah.gov/animal/animal-identification/36-animals/238-livestock-movement.html>  
Proof of ownership will also be used to verify the requirement for a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and Coggins testing, for out-of-state horses.
  - d) Rangers will check the documentation described above prior to stock being allowed in the park and equestrians will be required to provide proper documentation and certify that their stock meet these requirements.



### When You Arrive at the Park:

1. All equestrians and their animals must enter through the main park entrance where a Park Ranger will meet the party at the parking area adjacent to North Campground (see attached map). The Ranger will provide maps and discuss Leave No Trace practices and park safety rules.
2. The Ranger will inspect your animal health certifications and direct you to the Mixing Circle.
3. Parking, loading, and unloading must take place in the Mixing Circle area (see attached map).

### Scheduling a Ride Date and Time for Your Equestrian Group

Park horse trails include areas that are particularly narrow and steep-sided and may pose a risk when different riding groups converge. The park uses several techniques to lessen these risks including uni-directional flow, directional signage and ride scheduling. In an effort to provide for safety on park trails, protect natural resources and improve visitor experience, all horseback riding must be scheduled with the park at least 72 hours in advance. This coordination is necessary to reduce potentially unsafe encounters with other horse parties, including the concession-led trail rides.

Private riders can schedule their group for daily departures at 7:30am, 12:30pm, and every half-hour beginning at 4:30pm and until 1 hour before sunset. Please e-mail the Park at:

[BRCA\\_Information@nps.gov](mailto:BRCA_Information@nps.gov) at least 72 hours in advance to check availability of your desired date and time and to complete scheduling for your ride.

Please note these are departure times for your ride from the day corral on the Rim and must be strictly adhered to in order to avoid intermingling with concession trail rides. We strongly suggest that you arrive at the park entrance **1 hour before your departure time** to meet with a park ranger and receive a safety briefing, and to assure sufficient time to unload, saddle and travel from the Mixing Circle to the day corral where your ride into the Canyon begins.

Liveries are not available in the immediate area however; you may be able to make livery service arrangements by visiting [www.brycecanyoncountry.com](http://www.brycecanyoncountry.com). Camping with your stock is available on U.S. Forest Service lands. Contact the Dixie National Forest at 435-676-9300 for further information.

We hope this information will be helpful in planning and enjoying your horseback trip in Bryce Canyon National Park. For questions, please call our office at 435-834-5322.

Sincerely,

*/s/ original signed*

Jeff Bradybaugh  
Superintendent

